

21
DOERR
(D. Promani)



2005 SEP 19 AM 10 42

September 14, 2005

FDIC
San Francisco Regional Office
Director John F. Carter
25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Carter:

The once thriving downtown area of Hamilton, Alabama is now, like many other small towns in our country, dotted with closed and empty buildings. This exodus began a few years after Wal-Mart opened its store two miles away.

PeoplesTrust is one of four banks in a town of about 6500 people. We believe we serve our community's needs. Wachovia is located in Hamilton and of course provides any services we do not offer.

Our town is not unique. Most small towns have more than adequate banking facilities. Wal-Mart cannot provide a service that is not already being provided but they can and will use their localities and resources to drive out community banks. Do we really want to see our towns with vacant banking facilities?

Mixing banking and commerce, as reaffirmed in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, is bad public policy and will have an adverse affect on community banks and the communities they serve.

I encourage you to deny their application.

Sincerely,



Randy Whitehead
President and CEO